

government Labour Department have been engaged for specific work relating to contract Labour and Industrial Relations and liaison with Bihar Government at various levels.

(c) The persons have been engaged for specific work of purely temporary nature for a period of maximum one year and they would cease to be associated with Bokaro Steel Plant once work is completed. Their work has been of significant use to the Plant as they have considerable specialised experience in their recessive fields.

(d) Since the re-employed officers are not in regular establishment of Bokaro Steel Plant, the interests of the employees are in no way hampered due to the engagement of advisers.

Joint Venture of Frigoscandia

7044. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Frigoscandia of Sweden has proposed to set up a joint venture in the country with collaboration of Winner Technology of India,

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith terms of joint venture;

(c) whether proposed joint venture is likely to improve the processing methods in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof with prospects of exports thereof;

(e) whether the Government have taken any decision on the proposed joint venture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the location proposed for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No such proposal has been received in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries or the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals, Ministry of Industry.

(b) to (f). Do not arise.

IFC Investment in Private Sector Steel Plants

7045. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that International Finance corporation's principal regional economist called on the Senior Officials of the Steel Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the I.F.C is currently planning to invest in three private sector projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Ministry was given to understand that IFC would be ready to invest in iron and steel projects in the private sector. Proposals to invest in a pelletisation project of M/S. ESSAR, Sponge Iron Project of M/s. Nippon Denro and TISCO's 3rd phase modernisation/expansion project were reported to be under their consideration.

Financial Crisis In Desu

7046. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDLWAL:
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:
SHRIMADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking propose to raise tariff to tide over its financial crisis;

(b) whether the DESU is facing financial crisis due to mismanagement and faulty planning;

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(d) whether a high level committee will be set up to esquire into the mismanagement, theft of power and corruption prevailing in the DESU in order to avoid increase in incidence of tax on the consumers; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to tone up the mangement of DESU to overcome the financial crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e). DESU is facing financial difficulties mainly due to the unremunerative tariff. Revision of tariff becomes necessary on account of increase in the cost of various inputs for generation of power, purchase of power from outside agencies and other expenditure. The position in this regard is reviewed by DESU from time to time. DESU has already initiated steps to improve its performacne in generation, recovery of dues, transmission & distribution losses, bulging etc. Specific cases of malpractices or corruption are looked into by the vigilance department. Working of DESU is also reviewed by the Government from time to time to improve its overall performance.

Privatisation of Air India and Indian Airlines

7047. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI HARIKISHORE SINGH:
SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for privatisation of the Air India and the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Two Companies under the Companies Act, 1956, namely Indian Airlines Ltd. and Air India Ltd. are intended to be incorporated to replace the two Air Corporations, namely, Indian Airlines and Air India to enable them mobilise capital to meet growth requirements, provide opportunity of participation in the share-holding of the companies to workers in the first instance and later, if necessary, to mutual funds, financial institutions and general public.

[Translation]

Post and Telegraph offices in Uttar Pradesh

7048. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether six districts have been created by Uttar Pradesh Government recently;